

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Recliner means for allowing a seat back of a vehicle seat to be pivoted or inclined relative to a seat cushion, comprising a disc-like housing having a first bearing hole;

a disc-like cover having a plate portion, a second bearing hole formed in a central portion of said plate portion, a peripheral wall provided around said plate portion, first gear teeth around an inner surface of said peripheral wall, and spaced apart feeding pawls rising up from said plate portion;

latches having second gear teeth and inducting pins projecting therefrom;

said latches being arranged within said housing so as to be movable between locked positions and unlocked positions;

an actuating shaft;

a cam having an outer shape suitable for releasably pushing said latches;

a cam disc having guide holes formed therein, said guide holes including first hole end portions that are adjacent a periphery of said cam disc, and second hole end portions that are adjacent a center of said cam disc;

said first hole end portions positionally corresponding to said locked positions;

said second hole end portions positionally corresponding to said unlocked positions;

said cam and said cam disc being integrally mounted on an axial portion of said actuating shaft;

said housing mounted on said axial portion of said actuating shaft through said first bearing hole so as to cause said latches to be engaged with said cam;

said inducting pins of said latches being inserted through said first hole end portions of said guide holes of said cam disc;

springs for biasing said cam;

said springs being provided between said cam and said housing to urge said cam so as to urge said latches toward said locked positions through said cam;

said cover being mounted on said axial portion of said actuating shaft through said second bearing hole in a face-to-face relation with said housing so as to be rotatable relative to said housing;

said housing and said cover being adapted to be locked relative to each other by engagement of said first gear teeth of said latches with said second gear teeth of said cover at said locked positions;

a memory disc mounted on said axial portion of said actuating shaft so as to face said cam disc; and

said memory disc being formed with controlling holes extending longer than said guide holes of said cam disc;

said controlling holes including first hole portions extending beyond said first hole end portions of said guide holes, second hole portions extending beyond said second hole end portions of said guide holes, and middle hole portions;

said first hole portions of said controlling holes positionally corresponding to said locked positions;

said second hole portions of said controlling holes positionally corresponding to said unlocked positions;

said inducting pins of said latches being inserted in said middle hole portions of said controlling holes from said first hole end portions of said guide holes;

said memory disc having spaced apart protruding pieces protruding radially from a periphery thereof;

said feeding pawls of said cover being interposed between said protruding pieces of said memory disc so as to be capable of being selectively

abutted against said protruding pieces of said memory disc; and

    said memory disc being adapted to be rotated in one direction or the other direction by abutting of said feeding pawls against said protruding pieces in synchronization with the rotation of said cover relative to said housing;

    wherein when said actuating shaft is rotated in a direction, said cam disc integrally mounted on said axial portion of said actuating shaft is rotated so as to cause said latches to be displaced toward said unlocked positions from said locked positions while receiving said inducting pins of said latches at said second hole end portions of said guide holes, to thereby bring to a condition where said cover is rotatable relative to said housing, and when said actuating shaft is released, said latches are urged toward said locked positions by said cam due to actions of said springs, whereby said second gear teeth of said latches are meshed with said first gear teeth of said cover and said cover is locked with respect to said housing.

2. A vehicle seat comprising a seat back, seat cushion, and recliner means for allowing said seat back to be pivoted or inclined relative to said seat cushion, said recliner means comprising:

    a disc-like housing having a first bearing hole;

    a disc-like cover having a plate portion, a second bearing hole formed in a central portion of said plate portion, a peripheral wall provided around said plate portion, first gear teeth around an inner surface of said peripheral wall, and spaced apart feeding pawls rising up from said plate portion;

    latches having second gear teeth and inducting pins projecting therefrom;

    said latches being arranged within said housing so as to be movable between locked positions and unlocked positions;

    an actuating shaft;

    a cam having an outer shape suitable for releasably pushing said

latches;

a cam disc having guide holes formed therein, said guide holes including first hole end portions that are adjacent a periphery of said cam disc, and second hole end portions that are adjacent a center of said cam disc;

said first hole end portions positionally corresponding to said locked positions;

said second hole end portions positionally corresponding to said unlocked positions;

said cam and said cam disc being integrally mounted on an axial portion of said actuating shaft;

said housing mounted on said axial portion of said actuating shaft through said first bearing hole so as to cause said latches to be engaged with said cam;

said inducting pins of said latches being inserted through said first hole end portions of said guide holes of said cam disc;

springs for biasing said cam;

said springs being provided between said cam and said housing to urge said cam so as to urge said latches toward said locked positions through said cam;

said cover being mounted on said axial portion of said actuating shaft through said second bearing hole in a face-to-face relation with said housing so as to be rotatable relative to said housing;

said housing and said cover being adapted to be locked relative to each other by engagement of said first gear teeth of said latches with said second gear teeth of said cover at said locked positions;

a memory disc mounted on said axial portion of said actuating shaft so as to face said cam disc; and

said memory disc being formed with controlling holes extending longer than said guide holes of said cam disc;

said controlling holes including first hole portions extending beyond said first hole end portions of said guide holes, second hole portions extending beyond said second hole end portions of said guide holes, and middle hole portions;

said first hole portions of said controlling holes positionally corresponding to said locked positions;

said second hole portions of said controlling holes positionally corresponding to said unlocked positions;

said inducting pins of said latches being inserted in said middle hole portions of said controlling holes from said first hole end portions of said guide holes;

said memory disc having spaced apart protruding pieces protruding radially from a periphery thereof;

said feeding pawls of said cover being interposed between said protruding pieces of said memory disc so as to be capable of being selectively abutted against said protruding pieces of said memory disc; and

said memory disc being adapted to be rotated in one direction or the other direction by abutting of said feeding pawls against said protruding pieces in synchronization with the rotation of said cover relative to said housing;

wherein when said actuating shaft is rotated in a direction, said cam disc integrally mounted on said axial portion of said actuating shaft is rotated so as to cause said latches to be displaced toward said unlocked positions from said locked positions while receiving said inducting pins of said latches at said second hole end portions of said guide holes, to thereby bring to a condition where said cover is rotatable relative to said housing, and when said actuating shaft is released, said latches are urged toward said locked positions by said cam due to actions of said springs, whereby said second gear teeth of said latches are meshed with said first gear teeth of said cover and

said cover is locked with respect to said housing.